

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 AMMAN 05814 091352Z  
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 MMO-01 SS-15 SP-02 PER-05 ABF-01

OMB-01 EB-08 NSC-05 /049 W

-----069548 091407Z /45

R 091347Z JUL 78

FM AMEMBASSY AMMAN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6761

UNCLAS AMMAN 05814

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ECON, APER, JO

SUBJ: NEED FOR COMMERCIAL OFFICER POSITION IN AMMAN

REF: A) 1977 AMMAN 8083, B) AMMAN 3317

1. REFTEL SET FORTH IN SOME DETAIL DEVELOPMENTS OVER PAST SEVERAL YEARS WHICH HAVE CREATED NEED FOR ADDITION OF COMMERCIAL OFFICER TO EMBASSY'S ECONOMIC/COMMERCIAL SECTION: NAMELY VAST INCREASE IN COMMERCIAL OFFICE ACTIVITY WHICH HAS NECESSITATED ECONOMIC OFFICER DIVERTING INORDINATE AMOUNT OF TIME AND EFFORT TO COMMERCIAL WORK TO DETRIMENT OF HIS RESPONSIBILITIES FOR ECONOMIC REPORTING AND ANALYSIS. WITH CONTINUED GROWTH OF JORDANIAN ECONOMY AND ITS EXTERNAL RELATIONS, COMMERCIAL WORKLOAD CAN ONLY BE EXPECTED TO GROW FURTHER. FURTHERMORE EMBASSY ALSO COMMITTED TO EXTENSIVE CONSULTATIONS ON ECONOMIC ISSUES RELATING TO U.S. GOALS AND OBJECTIVES IN JORDAN.

2. AS MOVEMENT TOWARDS MIDDLE EAST PEACE SETTLEMENT TAKES PLACE, ECONOMIC OFFICER WILL HAVE TO DEVOTE GREAT DEAL OF HIS ATTENTION TO ECONOMIC DIMENSIONS OF THIS EVOLUTION. COMMERCIAL WORKLOAD DOES NOT PERMIT TIME FOR AS EXTENSIVE EMBASSY EFFORTS IN THESE AREAS AS WE BELIEVE NECESSARY.

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3. UNDER PRESENT STAFFING, ECONOMIC COMMERCIAL SECTION HAS BEEN BARELY ABLE TO COPE EFFECTIVELY WITH ITS GROWING RESPONSIBILITIES. IF DEVELOPMENTS ANTICIPATED ABOVE TAKE PLACE, PRESENT STAFFING WILL BE EVEN MORE INADEQUATE TO PERFORM DUTIES WITH THOROUGHNESS AND EFFECTIVENESS THAT SITUATION WILL DEMAND.

4. WE CONTINUE TO RECOMMEND THAT COMMERCIAL OFFICER POSITION AT 0-5 LEVEL BE ADDED TO EMBASSY STAFFING, WITH POSITION TO BE FILLED ASAP. PLEASE ADVISE. PICKERING

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## Message Attributes

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**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** POSITION AUTHORIZATION  
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**Review Markings:**  
Sheryl P. Walter  
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